



**For Immediate Release**

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**Senator Gregg: Americans Need Stronger Economy, Not Higher Taxes**

“Today is ‘Tax Day,’ but Americans will continue to work until April 23<sup>rd</sup> to pay their annual tax bill, longer than they work to pay for their housing, food and clothes combined. Now that we are in an economic slowdown, the last thing American families and businesses need is higher taxes putting more pressure on their budgets.

“But that is exactly what the Democratic majority has in mind, according to their fiscal year 2009 budget blueprint, which assumes a \$1.2 trillion tax hike on 116 million American taxpayers. This increase will hit families, seniors, low-income workers and small business owners, people who are already struggling and cannot afford another \$2,000-\$4,000 in tax payments when that money could be better spent on food, utilities, or health care costs.

“Instead of trying to generate more revenue at the expense of the family budget, the Democratic Congress should focus on tax incentives to stimulate the economy, address the housing credit crisis, and create jobs. I think most Americans would agree that they need a stronger economy, not higher taxes.”

# TAX HIKE HITS MOST HOUSEHOLDS

| Average Taxpayer  | Income         | Tax Increase   |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Mrs. Brown</b><br>A widow with two young children, working as a teacher  | \$30,000       | <b>\$1,100</b> |
| <b>The Myers</b><br>A retired couple  | \$40,000       | <b>\$2,200</b> |
| <b>The Smith Family</b><br>Mr. Smith is a security guard & his wife takes care of two young children                      | \$50,000       | <b>\$2,300</b> |
| <b>The Handy Family</b><br>Owners of a local hardware store   | Small Business | <b>\$4,100</b> |
| <b>The Jones Family</b><br>Mr. Jones is a Sgt. with the local police force while his wife teaches at an elementary school | \$110,000      | <b>\$4,300</b> |